

COURSE OUTLINE		
TERM: Spring 2019	COURSE NO: HIST 326	
INSTRUCTOR:	COURSE TITLE: DISASTERS AND CATASTROPHES	
OFFICE: LOCAL: E-MAIL: @capilanou.ca	SECTION NO(S):	CREDITS: 3.0
OFFICE HOURS:		
COURSE WEBSITE:		

Capilano University acknowledges with respect the Lil'wat, Musqueam, Squamish, Sechelt, and Tsleil-Waututh people on whose territories our campuses are located.

COURSE FORMAT

Three hours of class time, plus an additional hour delivered through on-line or other activities for a 15-week semester, which includes two weeks for final exams.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

45 credits of 100-level or higher coursework.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course will examine a variety of historical disasters and catastrophes, from ancient times to the current era. This course will explore the various aspects of these disasters and catastrophes and place them in their proper historical context. Main themes will include the views, attitudes, and outcomes, both perceived and actual, of these diverse historical events and circumstances.

COURSE NOTE

HIST 326 is an approved Self and Society course for Cap Core requirements.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND/OR RESOURCES

Storey, William K., and Towser Jones. *Writing History: A Guide for Canadian Students*, Current Edition. Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press, 2016 or later.

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:

1. Explain the significance of important people, places, events, concepts, processes, and themes.
2. Summarize and critically engage with significant historical arguments and debates.
3. Based on original research, and using evidence from primary sources, formulate a logical and persuasive historical argument, in a formal essay format, and use this argument to engage with relevant scholarship in the field.
4. Critically reflect on the major people, events, and processes that shaped disasters and catastrophes, and assess their contributions to historical change and continuity.
5. Critically reflect on their own progress and development in the context of the course and assess the utility of the historical discipline in their personal, academic or professional trajectory.

Students who complete this Self and Society course will be able to do the following:

1. Identify potential root causes of local/global problems and how they affect local/global cultures, economies, politics, and policies.
2. Assess and evaluate individual and collective responsibilities within a diverse and interconnected global society.
3. Synthesize a range of differing community perspectives on ethics and justice and explain how these perspectives can inform structural change.
4. Explain how contexts (e.g. cultural, historical, colonial, economic, technological) shape identity formation and social structures.

COURSE CONTENT

In order to facilitate student learning and in-class discussion, students are expected to complete all assigned readings before each class. Readings and lecture topics may change and/or additional readings assigned as appropriate. Please consult with your instructor and the course syllabus.

DATE	TOPICS & READINGS
Week 1	Course Introduction
Week 2	Maritime Disaster: The Sinking of the RMS Titanic (1912)
Week 3	Disastrous Industrial Accident: the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire (1911)
Week 4	Early 20th Century Canadian Disasters: the Frank Slide (1903) and the Halifax Explosion (1917)
Week 5	Sporting Events Gone Wrong
Week 6	Significant Urban Fires in North America
Week 7	Midterm Exam
Week 8	Structural Failures and Disasters Close to Home
Week 9	Catastrophic Threats to Humanity: Pathogens and Pandemics
Week 10	Catastrophic Threats to Humanity: Pathogens and Pandemics con't
Week 11	Nuclear Weapons Related Accidents and Near Nuclear War
Week 12	Nuclear Weapons Related Accidents and Near Nuclear War con't
Week 13	Nuclear Power Related Disasters
Week 14-15	Final Exam Period

EVALUATION PROFILE

Written Assignments	20–40%*
Tests and Quizzes	20–40%*
Participation	0–10%
Presentations	0–30%
Final Exam	<u>20–35%</u> 100%

*Note: No single assignment will be worth more than 35% in the evaluation profile.

Participation

Participation grades are based on the consistency, quality, and frequency of contributions to class discussions. Consistency means attending every class, maintaining a positive and respectful presence in the classroom, and actively contributing to discussions on a regular basis. Quality means demonstrating respect for peers and their contributions, listening attentively during lectures and when other students are speaking, and participating in all activities with an open and inquisitive mind.

GRADING PROFILE

A+ = 90 - 100%	B+ = 77 - 79%	C+ = 67 - 69%	D = 50 - 59%
A = 85 - 89%	B = 73 - 76%	C = 63 - 66%	F = 0 - 49%
A- = 80 - 84%	B- = 70 - 72%	C- = 60 - 62%	

Incomplete Grades

Grades of Incomplete "I" are assigned only in exceptional circumstances when a student requests extra time to complete their coursework. Such agreements are made only at the request of the student, who is responsible to determine from the instructor the outstanding requirements of the course.

Late Assignments

Assignment submission guidelines, deadlines, and late penalties are determined by the instructor within the parameters of History Department practices. In general, assignments will be submitted electronically via Moodle or by hard copy in-class (consult with your instructor for their preference). Assignments submitted late may be subject to late penalties, except in extenuating circumstances (e.g. medical or family emergency). Please contact your instructor as soon as possible if such an unfortunate situation occurs. Official documentation (e.g. doctor's note) may be required for any extension to be granted.

Missed Quizzes and Exams

Missed quizzes and exams may only be rescheduled in the event of exceptional emergencies and/or circumstances. Please contact your instructor as soon as possible if you find yourself in this situation (do not wait until the next class). In such cases, students may need to provide appropriate and verifiable documentation supporting an absence, as soon as possible after the absence occurs. Rescheduling will not be allowed for reasons such as holidays, nor shall re-scheduling be possible after exams have been graded and returned. For further details, please consult with your instructor.

Attendance

This course is built around an active classroom component; attendance in all class meetings is therefore strongly advised. Students not attending class regularly will be at a considerable disadvantage. Official university policy on attendance is found in the University Calendar.

English Usage

Students are expected to use proper academic English in written assignments. All written work should be in clear, well-organized and correctly punctuated sentences contained within organized paragraphs. Form as well as content will be evaluated in all written assignments.

Electronic Devices

Personal electronic devices (laptops, tablets, e-readers, etc.) may not be used during a quiz or exam without prior approval. Any use of cellphones, smartphones, or other distractions is strictly prohibited. These must be silenced and stored for the duration of the quiz/exam period. Students requiring exam accommodations must register with Accessibility Services. Please consult with your instructor about their practices for use of electronic devices during regular classes.

On-line Communication

A Moodle site will complement the course syllabus and your Capilano email address will be used for all official communications; please check both regularly. The best way to reach your instructor is by email or by going to regularly scheduled office hours. The course syllabus contains a wealth of information, policies, and guidelines to help you to navigate this course successfully—read it carefully! The syllabus also provides a detailed breakdown of readings and assignments for the course.

UNIVERSITY OPERATIONAL DETAILS

Tools for Success

Many services are available to support student success for Capilano University students. A central navigation point for all services can be found at: <http://www.capilanou.ca/services/>

Capilano University Security: download the [CapU Mobile Safety App](#)

Policy Statement (S2009-06)

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Academic Integrity, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

Academic Integrity (S2017-05)

Any instance of academic dishonesty or breach of the standards of academic integrity is serious and students will be held accountable for their actions, whether acting alone or in a group. See policy S2017-05 for more information: <http://www.capilanou.ca/about/governance/policies/Policies/>

Violations of academic integrity, including dishonesty in assignments, examinations, or other academic performances, are prohibited and will be handled in accordance with the Student Academic Integrity Procedures.

Academic dishonesty is any act that breaches one or more of the principles of academic integrity. Acts of academic dishonesty may include but are not limited to the following types:

Cheating: Using or providing unauthorized aids, assistance or materials while preparing or completing assessments, or when completing practical work (in clinical, practicum, or lab settings), including but not limited to the following:

- Copying or attempting to copy the work of another during an assessment;
- Communicating work to another student during an examination;
- Using unauthorized aids, notes, or electronic devices or means during an examination;

- Unauthorized possession of an assessment or answer key; and/or,
- Submitting of a substantially similar assessment by two or more students, except in the case where such submission is specifically authorized by the instructor.

Fraud: Creation or use of falsified documents.

Misuse or misrepresentation of sources: Presenting source material in such a way as to distort its original purpose or implication(s); misattributing words, ideas, etc. to someone other than the original source; misrepresenting or manipulating research findings or data; and/or suppressing aspects of findings or data in order to present conclusions in a light other than the research, taken as a whole, would support.

Plagiarism: Presenting or submitting, as one's own work, the research, words, ideas, artistic imagery, arguments, calculations, illustrations, or diagrams of another person or persons without explicit or accurate citation or credit.

Self-Plagiarism: Submitting one's own work for credit in more than one course without the permission of the instructors, or re-submitting work, in whole or in part, for which credit has already been granted without permission of the instructors.

Prohibited Conduct: The following are examples of other conduct specifically prohibited:

- Taking unauthorized possession of the work of another student (for example, intercepting and removing such work from a photocopier or printer, or collecting the graded work of another student from a stack of papers);
- Falsifying one's own and/or other students' attendance in a course;
- Impersonating or allowing the impersonation of an individual;
- Modifying a graded assessment then submitting it for re-grading; or,
- Assisting or attempting to assist another person to commit any breach of academic integrity.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

All Members of the University Community have the right to work, teach and study in an environment that is free from all forms of sexual violence and misconduct. Policy B401 defines sexual assault as follows:

Sexual assault is any form of sexual contact that occurs without ongoing and freely given consent, including the threat of sexual contact without consent. Sexual assault can be committed by a stranger, someone known to the survivor or an intimate partner.

Safety and security at the University are a priority and any form of sexual violence and misconduct will not be tolerated or condoned. The University expects all Students and Members of the University Community to abide by all laws and University policies, including [B.401 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Policy and B.401.1 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Procedure](#).

Emergencies: Students are expected to familiarise themselves with the emergency policies where appropriate and the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.

DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL DETAILS

Classroom Etiquette

All students are expected to behave in a respectful academic manner. Learning is a cooperative endeavor so it is important that we all be involved in creating and maintaining a positive and supportive learning environment in the classroom.

Formatting Written Assignments

All written assignments will be composed in a standard font and font size (e.g. 12-point Times New Roman), double-spaced, paginated, with one inch margins, and a title page with a title, your name, date, course name, and instructor's name, in hard copy, or saved in pdf or doc formats. The accepted format for referencing in history papers is the *Chicago Manual of Style, 16th Edition* (footnotes-bibliography), which can be found at: http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html.

Accessibility and Diversity

The History Department is committed to the academic values of accessibility and diversity. We aim to promote and protect a positive, supportive and safe learning environment for all students. Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome and encouraged to fully participate in this course. For academic accommodations, please contact your instructor and/or Accessibility Services as soon as possible. The Accessibility Services office is in BR 284, and you can book an appointment with them by calling 604-983-7526. The university's policy on Access and Accommodation is available at: <http://www.capilanou.ca/about/governance/policies/Policies/>.